

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 31-60 **(Cancelled)**

61. **(New)** A terminal device that obtains, from a server device, information for using a content based on transaction processes and controls use of the content based on the information, each of the transaction processes including sending of a request message, receiving of a response message, and sending of a commit message for finalizing completion of one transaction,

wherein the request message includes a transaction flag which corresponds to a transaction currently being processed and has a value of 0 or 1, and

said terminal device includes:

a holding unit which holds the transaction flag; and

a sending unit configured to send, in a second or a following transaction process out of successive transaction processes, a request message including a transaction flag having a value which is an inverse of the value of a transaction flag included in a previously sent request message when a response message responding to the previously sent request message is normally received from the server device, and to send a commit message in a last transaction process.

62. **(New)** The terminal device according to Claim 61, comprising:

a response receiving unit configured to receive each response message sent from the server device in the transaction processes; and

an update unit configured to update the transaction flag held by said holding unit according to each reception result of said response receiving unit.

63. **(New)** The terminal device according to Claim 62,

wherein said update unit is configured to invert the value of the transaction flag held in said holding unit when said response receiving unit normally receives the response message.

64. **(New)** The terminal device according to Claim 63,

wherein said sending unit is configured to:

send a request message, for a next transaction process, including the transaction flag inverted by said update unit in the case where a response message is normally received by said response receiving unit; and

send again a request message, for the current transaction process, including a transaction flag which is not inverted by said update unit in the case where a response message is not normally received by said response receiving unit.

65. **(New)** A server device that provides a terminal device with information for using a content based on transaction processes, each including receiving of a request message, sending of a response message, and receiving of a commit message for finalizing completion of one transaction,

wherein the request message includes a transaction flag which corresponds to a transaction currently being processed and has a value of 0 or 1, and

said server device includes:

a receiving unit configured to receive a transaction flag included in a second or a following request message out of successive transaction processes; and

a judging unit configured to judge that a completion of a previous transaction should be finalized in the case where a value of the transaction flag is an inverse of a value of a transaction flag previously received when the second or the following request message is received.

66. **(New)** The server device according to Claim 65, further comprising

a holding unit configured to hold a first flag which is a copy of the transaction flag included in a previous received request message in the transaction processes,

wherein said judgment unit is configured to judge that the completion of a previous transaction should be finalized in the case where the transaction flag, in the current transaction process, received by said receiving unit and the first flag held by said holding unit do not match.

67. **(New)** The server device according to Claim 66,
wherein said receiving unit includes:
a request receiving unit configured to receive a transaction flag included in the second or following request message; and
a commit receiving unit configured to receive a commit message only in a last transaction process in the transaction processes.
68. **(New)** The server device according to Claim 67, further comprising
a response sending unit configured to send the response message, responding to the request message, to the terminal device,
wherein said response sending unit is configured to send a response message for a next transaction process in the case where said judgment unit judges that the completion of the previous transaction should be finalized, and to send again the response message for the previous transaction process in the case where said judgment unit judges that the completion of the previous transaction should not be finalized.
69. **(New)** A digital content distribution system comprising a server device and a terminal device, said server device providing said terminal device with information for using a content based on transaction processes, each including receiving of a request message, sending of a response message, and receiving of a commit message for finalizing completion of a transaction, and said terminal device controlling use of the content based on the information obtained from said server device,
wherein the request message includes a transaction flag which corresponds to a transaction currently being processed and has a value of 0 or 1, and
said terminal device includes:
a holding unit which holds the transaction flag; and
a sending unit configured to send, in a second or a following transaction process out of successive transaction processes, a request message including a transaction flag having a value

which is an inverse of the value of a transaction flag included in a previously sent request message when a response message responding to the previously sent request message is normally received from the server device, and to send a commit message in a last transaction process, and

said server device includes:

a receiving unit configured to receive a transaction flag included in a second or a following request message out of successive transaction processes; and

a judging unit configured to judge that a completion of a previous transaction should be finalized in the case where a value of the transaction flag is an inverse of a value of a transaction flag previously received when the second or the following request message is received.

70. **(New)** A transaction processing method for use in a terminal device that obtains, from a server device, information for using a content based on transaction processes and controls use of the content based on the information, each of the transaction processes including sending of a request message, receiving of a response message, and sending of a commit message for finalizing completion of one transaction,

wherein the request message includes a transaction flag which corresponds to a transaction currently being processed and has a value of 0 or 1, and

said method includes:

performing a control so that a request message is sent in a second or a following transaction process out of successive transaction processes when a response message responding to the previously sent request message is normally received from the server device, the request message including a transaction flag having a value which is an inverse of the value of a transaction flag included in a previously sent request message; and

sending a commitment message in a last transaction process.

71. **(New)** A transaction processing method for use in a server device that provides a terminal device with information for using a content based on transaction processes, each

including receiving of a request message, sending of a response message, and receiving of a commit message for finalizing completion of one transaction, said method comprising:

wherein the request message includes a transaction flag which corresponds to a transaction currently being processed and has a value of 0 or 1, and

said transaction processing method includes:

receiving a transaction flag included in a second or a following request message out of successive transaction processes; and

judging that a completion of a previous transaction should be finalized in the case where a value of the transaction flag is an inverse of a value of a transaction flag previously received when the second or the following request message is received.

72. **(New)** A transaction processing method for use in a digital content distribution system including a server device and a terminal device, the server device providing the terminal device with information for using a content based on transaction processes, each including receiving of a request message, sending of a response message, and receiving of a commit message for finalizing completion of a transaction, and the terminal device controlling use of the content based on the information obtained from the server device,

wherein the request message includes a transaction flag which corresponds to a transaction currently being processed and has a value of 0 or 1, and

said method includes:

performing, executed by the terminal device, a control so that a request message is sent in a second or a following transaction process out of successive transaction processes when a response message responding to the previously sent request message is normally received from the server device, the request message including a transaction flag having a value which is an inverse of the value of a transaction flag included in a previously sent request message; and

sending, executed by the terminal device, a commitment message in a last transaction process;

receiving, executed by the server device, a transaction flag included in a second or a following request message out of successive transaction processes; and

judging, executed by the server device, that a completion of a previous transaction should be finalized in the case where a value of the transaction flag is an inverse of a value of a transaction flag previously received when the second or the following request message is received.

73. **(New)** A computer program for causing transaction processes to be executed in a terminal device that obtains, from a server device, information for using a content based on the transaction processes and controls use of the content based on the information, each of the transaction processes including sending of a request message, receiving of a response message, and sending of a commit message for finalizing completion of one transaction,

wherein the request message includes a transaction flag which corresponds to a transaction currently being processed and has a value of 0 or 1, and

said computer program causes a computer in the terminal device to function as:

a holding unit which holds the transaction flag; and

a sending unit configured to send, in a second or a following transaction process out of successive transaction processes, a request message including a transaction flag having a value which is an inverse of the value of a transaction flag included in a previously sent request message when a response message responding to the previously sent request message is normally received from the server device, and to send a commit message in a last transaction process.

74. **(New)** A computer program for causing transaction processes to be executed in a server device that provides a terminal device with information for using a content based on transaction processes, each including receiving of a request message, sending of a response message, and receiving of a commit message for finalizing completion of one transaction,

wherein the request message includes a transaction flag which corresponds to a transaction currently being processed and has a value of 0 or 1, and

said program causes a computer in the server device to function as:

- a receiving unit configured to receive a transaction flag included in a second or a following request message out of successive transaction processes; and
- a judging unit configured to judge that a completion of a previous transaction should be finalized in the case where a value of the transaction flag is an inverse of a value of a transaction flag previously received when the second or the following request message is received.